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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

State Dept. review completed

SEP 16 1977

TO:

Executive Secretary
Security Committee

FROM:

A/SY - Verne St. Mars, Acting
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security

SUBJECT: Community-Wide Adherence to DCID #1/14 (U)

In response to your memorandum of July 12, 1977, the following information is submitted:

(1976) ?

- a. While the standards call for coverage of employment, education and police records over the past fifteen years, SY now (since January 1972) goes back only seven years for applicants for employment, some of whom will eventually require access to SCI material, and we have no provision for the additional coverage when this situation arises. Otherwise the standards are being met, including a full five year update for those individuals who hold SCI clearance at the time their updating investigation is scheduled.
- b. The minimum standards would seem adequate provided they are met by all agencies concerned, which is apparently not the case, particularly with regard to the fifteen year coverage requirement. Any attempts at revision should be directed toward achieving a standard of coverage which would be practical for all agencies.
- c. Although the cyclic updating program has been reasonably effective along these lines, it has not always been possible for us to catch the case of an individual with SCI access immediately as his latest background investigation becomes five years old.

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CLASSIFIED BY Verne F. St. Mars
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5b2
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Impossible to Determine.

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To alleviate this situation a new system has been instituted by agreement with The Bureau of Intelligence and Research whereby they will, when reviewing their files for whatever reason, notify The Office of Security of any such employees whose five year period has run out.

d. The Office of Security continuously reviews and investigates all questions of loyalty, integrity, conduct and association which arise involving all employees of the Department and any information which might preclude an individual's continued access to SCI is called to the attention of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research for whatever action they deem advisable.

The security education program and security supervisory program for sensitive compartmented information (SCI) is handled by RCI within the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. RCI is responsible for receiving, handling, processing and storing all SCI material received by the Department of State as well as performing all indoctrinations for State, ACDA and AID employees. RCI personnel who are responsible for conducting the indoctrinations are well versed in the security regulations covering the SCI program. RCI conducts approximately 50 regular and 100 ad hoc indoctrination sessions each year. Approximately 700 to 800 people are processed (indoctrinated or debriefed) each year. The estimated cycle for participation in a security briefing is between 45 minutes to an hour.

e. Both INR and the Office of Security agree that an exchange of information would be extremely helpful if a legal means could be found consistent with the Privacy and Freedom of Information Acts, but we have no concrete suggestions at this time as to the means of instituting such a procedure. It is our understanding that this matter is to be taken up at a future meeting of the Security Committee.

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